

CLAIMS:

1. A network comprising a loop having therein a plurality of loop network monitors, each loop network monitor having an RS-485 port connected to a host which transmits and receives data, and two further RS-485 ports by way of which the monitors are connected into the loop.
2. A network as claimed in claim 1, and including router logic under the control of a microprocessor for controlling the transmission of data through the monitor.
3. A network as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the first mentioned RS-485 port comprises termination jumpers which can be set in dependence on the nature of the host, an RS-485 transceiver and means for isolating the host from the router logic.
4. A network as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein each of said further ports comprises a termination, an RS-485 transceiver, and means for isolating the router logic from the loop.
5. A network as claimed in claim 3 or 4, wherein each of said means for isolating comprises an opto coupler.
6. A network loop monitor comprising an RS-485 port for connection to a

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host which transmits and receives data, and two further RS-485 ports for connecting the monitor into the loop.

7. A network loop monitor as claimed in claim 6, wherein the first mentioned RS-485 port comprises termination jumpers which can be set in dependance on the nature of the host, an RS-485 transceiver and means for isolating the host from the router logic.

8. A network loop monitor as claimed in claim 6 or 7, wherein each of said further ports comprises a termination, an RS-485 transceiver, and means for isolating the router logic from the loop.

9. A network loop monitor as claimed in claim 6, 7 or 8, wherein each of said means for isolating comprises an opto coupler.